



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ROD ROSS et al.

Application No.: 09/895,304

Filed: June 29, 2001

For: **CUTTING BLADE ASSEMBLY
FOR A MICROKERATOME**

Examiner: Sarah K. Webb

Art Group: 3731

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Commissioner for Patents
Box Non-Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231-9998

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2002, please amend the above-entitled application as follows.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the abstract with the amended version enclosed herein.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 17, 21, 24, 27, 29, 31 and 45 as follows.

- ✓ 1. (Amended) A blade assembly that can be assembled into a microkeratome used to cut a cornea, the microkeratome including a pin, comprising:
- ai a blade that has a cutting edge, a rear edge, and a pair of side edges that extend between said cutting edge and said rear edge; and,
- a blade holder that is coupled to said blade to define a cutting depth, said blade holder having a color that corresponds to said cutting depth of said blade said blade holder having a recess that receives the pin.